

Appl. No. 09/643,224
Amdt. Dated February 24, 2004
Reply to Office action of November 26, 2003
Attorney Docket No. P11832/64645-1025
EUS/J/P/04-6037

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Amendments

The Applicants have added Claims 21-40; Claims 1-20 have been cancelled. Accordingly, Claims 21-40 are pending in the application. No new subject matter has been added. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-4 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,659,596 issued to Dunn (Dunn). In order to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants consider as their invention, Applicants have cancelled all pending claims without prejudice and have added Claims 21-40. A favorable reconsideration of the newly added claims in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The present invention basically deals with using a packet based communication network (Fig. 1, network 104) to transport data between two circuit switched based networks (Fig. 1, networks 102 and 106). In order to perform interworking functions enabling circuit switched data to be transported over a packet based network, a first media gateway (Fig. 1, MGW 120) is used to connect to a calling party terminal (Fig. 1, Unit 112) associated with the first circuit switched based network (102) and a second media gateway (Fig. 1, MGW 124) is used to connected to a called party terminal associated with the second circuit switched based network (106). In accordance with the teachings of the present invention, in response to a call setup message generated

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by the first circuit switched network, a first call control server associated with the first media gateway provides a controlling signal instructing the first media gateway to establish a first termination point for connecting with the calling party terminal. As stated above, the function of MGW is to perform interworking function (IWF) to enable the circuit switched based data transmitted by the calling party terminal to be converted and be compatible with the packet based network. The first call control server then generates a circuit switched call setup message towards a second call control server associated with the called party terminal wherein the generated circuited switched call setup message further includes identification data associated with the first media gateway. In other words, rather than going through the packet based network to further process the call setup signal, the first call control server instead uses the circuit switched based call setup signal to communicate with the second call control server (Fig. 1, ISUP links between the two UMSCs). Furthermore, in accordance with the teachings of the present invention, the second call control server then provides a controlling signal instructing the second media gateway to establish a second termination point for connecting with said called party terminal. Similar interworking function is also provided for the called party terminal. Using the identification data received from the first media gateway, a call specific packet communication link is then directly established between the second media gateway and said first media gateway over the packet based network enabling packet communication between said calling party terminal and the called party terminal. As further claimed by dependent Claim 27, the circuit switched based call setup message generated by the first call control server is an ISUP signal.

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Applicants respectfully submit that the method of using two separate call control servers to control two separate media gateway providing interworking functions to two different circuit based networks as disclosed and claimed by the present application is not anticipated or rendered obvious by any of the cited references. Moreover, the step of generating circuit switched based call setup signal (such as ISUP signal) including identification data associated with the first media gateway from the first call control server to the second call control server is simply not disclosed or taught anywhere in the cited references.

Applicants submit that Dunn teaches a mobile location network system comprising a logical network which works in conjunction with existing physical mobile networks. The logical network performs decision making functions and memory functions to locate end user devices, initiate communication links between end user devices, store target device and user identification and location information, and to route messages from the originator to the target based on the database of memory information identifying and locating the actual target (Dunn, Col. 8, lines 33-51). However, nothing in Dunn discloses or teaches the present invention as currently claimed.

Felciano deals with monitoring and modifying web browsing activities over an entire computer network which can be implemented over a single server without modifying client software. However, Applicants fail to understand how this reference could act as a prior art reference on the presently claimed invention.

Lastly, Lakshman discloses a method for transmitting packets or cells within a communication network. It further discloses using buffers residing within intermediate

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nodes to properly schedule the transmission of those packets or cells. However, this Lakshman reference also simply fails to anticipate or render obvious the present invention.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for Claims 21-40.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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